

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

Claims 1-38 were pending in the application. Claims 17-38 were withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-16 stand rejected. Claims 1, 2, 6-10, and 12-16 are amended. Reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing Amendments and the following remarks.

**Remarks**

**Specification**

The Examiner objects to the use of the terms "comprising" and "means" in the Abstract section of the present application. The Examiner also requests the insertion of the term "of" after the term "construction" in the last sentence of the Abstract section. Applicants have amended the Abstract and request withdrawal of the objections to the specification.

**Drawings**

The Examiner objects to FIGURES 1, 2A, 2B, 3, 3A, 4, 10A-10E, 13 and 14 and states that these identified figures should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art--. Applicants propose amending FIGURES 1, 2A, 2B, 3, 3A, 4, 10D, 13 and 14 as suggested by the Examiner. Drawings showing the proposed changes in red are enclosed with this response.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's objection to FIGURES 10A-10C and 10E because the features shown in FIGURES 10A-10C and 10E are not prior art. The present application clearly indicates that some embodiments of the present invention are shown in FIGURES 10A-10C and 10E (See portions of the "Brief Description of the Drawings" section [pages 6-7] corresponding to FIGURES 10A-10C and 10E). In view of the foregoing Applicants request withdrawal of the objections to the drawings.

Approved  
5/2/03

**Claim rejections**

Claims 1-3, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13, and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent 3,530,879 (Figures 1, 3 and 4) issued to Nutter ("*Nutter*"). Claims 1-3, 5, and 9-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent 3,759,494 issued to Axelrod, et al. (Figures 2, 4-6; col. 3, lines 21-24) ("*Axelrod*"). Claims 1, 5, 6, 9, 11, and 14-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,547,617 issued to Lee, et al. (element 350 in Figures 6-8; col. 10, lines 24-35) ("*Lee*"). Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,911,922 issued to Hauser, et al. (Figure 4) ("*Hauser*"). Claim 7 stands further rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Lee* in view of Great Britain 1,026,371 ("*GB '371*").

Applicants note that Claim 1 has been amended to recite, among other things, "a conversion microdispenser having a top wall and a plurality of side walls, the top wall and at least one side wall each having a plurality of apertures...." None of the cited references discloses or suggests a microdispenser having the recited structure. Applicants, therefore, respectfully submit that Claim 1 is allowable.

Claims 2-16 are likewise allowable as depending from an allowable base claim. Additionally, Claims 2, 6-10, 12-14, and 16 are allowable also because they have been amended to include various structural limitations that are not shown in any of the cited references.

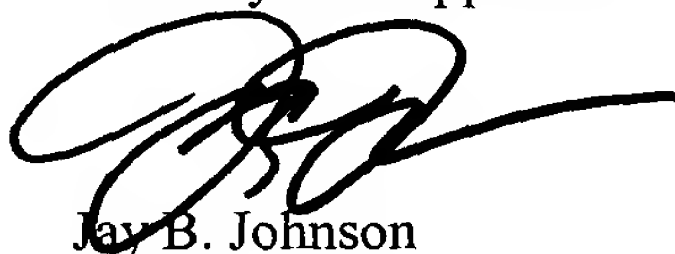
Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the present Application is in condition for allowance and favorable notice thereof is requested. Although no fees are believed due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit Baker Botts Deposit Account No. 02-0384 in the event of a fee discrepancy.

If there are matters that can be discussed by telephone to further the prosecution of this application, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner call their attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,

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